

Tax evasion by some Drug Companies

641. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of tax evasion of Central Excise and Customs Duty are pending against drug companies Reckit-Colman, Johnson and Johnson, Procter and Gamble, German Remedies, Novartis and Ranbaxy;

(b) if so, what are the details of evasion; and

(c) what action has been taken against the companies for recovery of amounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of pending cases of alleged evasion of Central Excise and Customs duties are given in Statement. (See below)

(c) In all cases, show cause notices/adjudication proceedings have been initiated to determine the duty liability and to recover the amount of duties evaded.

Statement*Central Excise*

Company	Number of cases of alleged evasion	Amount involved (in Rupees lakh)
1	2	3
Reckit Coleman	5	151.17
Johnson & Johnson	3	784.36
Ranbaxy	6	465.63
Procter & Gamble	4	1142.30

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RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3
German Remedies	10	859.53
Novarties	6	500.21
TOTAL	34	3953.20
<i>Customs:</i>		
Ranbaxy	1	26.84
TOTAL	1	26.84

Revival of discretionary allotment of Petrol Pumps

642. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry have revived the practice of discretionary allotment of petrol pumps for years after it was stopped on criticism by the Supreme Court;
- (b) the criteria under discretionary quota and the details of categories included for such allotment;
- (c) the number of petrol pumps allotted under such quota during the last three months month-wise; and
- (d) the number of petrol pumps allotted to widows of Kargil War, during last two years, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANG WAR): (a) to (c) A decision has been taken to revive the discretionary quota in allotment of dealerships/distributorships of petroleum products to the following categories:—

- (i) Dependants of DefencePara Military/Police personnel, who are killed in action or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated;
- (ii) Dependants of CentrakState Government employees, who are